objectives of Government and its allies ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMED SYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It forms a part of the Manifesto of BJP.

(c) There is no confusion. The resolve of the Government of India to standby its commitement to Article 370 has been made clear by the Prime Minister on the floor of the House.

श्री सुरेन्द्रजीत सिंह अहलूवालिया : सभापति महोदय, मैं आपके माध्यम से मन्त्री महोदय से पूछना चाहूंगा । जैसे कि उन्होंने खुद स्वीकार किया है, बी०जे०पी० के मेनिफेस्टो में आर्टिकल 370 को विदड्रा करने के लिए लिखा है । अभी कश्मीर में शान्ति स्थापित करने के लिए और वहां का सारा माहौल ठीक करने के लिए सरकार की तरफ से एक कमेटी बनाई गई है । उस कमेटी में बी०जे०पी० के सदस्य भी हैं उनका क्या रोल है, जब यह धारा-370 को विदड्रा करने की बात करते हैं तो एक तरफ कश्मीरी हमारे गृह मंत्री अपने दिल में पूछे और जवाब दे । जब हम आम कश्मीरी को धारा 370 विदड्रा करने की बात करते हैं और दूसरी तरफ से प्रोपोजल देते हैं कि नौकरियां देंगे, बेकार लोगों को रोजगार देंगे, साथ ही कमेटी में धारा 370 को विदड्रा करने की बात करते हैं, उनके बारे में सरकार क्या कहती है ?

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : इनका भी वही है और इलेक्शन मेनिफेस्टो का भी वही है **(व्यवधान)**

श्री मुफ्ती मोहम्मद सईद : जैसे मेरे जवाब में है । The honourable Prime Minister has made it abundantly clear that the policy of the Government is that there is no question of abrogation of article 370 and that it is a historical necessity. So, an Advisory Committee for Kashmir was set up. It was the decision of all the parties to have an Advisory Committee and this party gave one representative. I do not think that it is a question of starting any political process in Kashmir. There is no question of discussing whether article 370 is to be abrogated or not. That will not be the subject matter of discussion in Kashmir.

श्री सुरेन्द्रजीत सिंह अहलूवालिया : बी०जे०पी० के सदस्य को सलाह समिति से बाहर निकाला जायेगा या नहीं क्योंकि उनकी पहली और अंतिम मांग 370 के विदड्रॉल की है ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Proposals for National Highways in Karnataka

*122. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of proposals received so far from the Government of Karnataka for converting their State Highways into National Highways; and

(b) what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) During the Seventh Five Year Plan, proposal for eleven number of roads has been received from the Govt. of Karnataka for declaring as National Highways.

(b) Inclusion of the roads mentioned above in the National

Highway grid would depend on the availability of resources in the Eighth Five Year Plan.

Sino-Indian border dispute

*127. DR. BAPU KALDATE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fresh talks are proposed to be held with China to resolve the Sino-Indian border dispute; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b) The boundary question is a subject of continuing discussion between the Governments of India and China. The India -China Joint Working Group on the boundary question has been established to address this question. Government's efforts are directed at reaching a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable settlement of the boundary question with China, consistent with our national interests.

Private entrepreneurs to construct Highways

*128. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI: SHRI ANAND SHARMA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether private entrepreneurs are proposed to be allowed by Govt. to construct highways in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what are the reasons for allowing the private sector to undertake such construction work?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI K. P. UNNIKRISHNAN): (a) and (b) Government had in July, 1985 by a public notice invited proposals from private sector for undertaking the construction of national highways at their cost but no satisfactory response was received. Government are prepared to consider such proposals.

(c) It is to increase the investment in national highways by supplementing the budgetary resources.

U.S. protest against India's action in Srinagar

*129. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of a press report in "The Hindustan Times" dated, 4th March, 1990, captioned U.S. flays action in Srinagar which quoted State Department Spokeswoman, Margaret Tutwiler, deploring the violence in Srinagar and urging New Delhi to immediately stop its security forces from shooting unarmed civilians; and

(b) if so, whether Government have made any protest in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has conveyed to the US Ambassador in New Delhi its concern at the inaccurate statement made by the State Department spokeswoman.

Intelligence branch of Kashmir in Delhi

*130. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAMRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an intelligence branch of the Kashmir